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THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO 1 NOVEMBER 1963

In the past the Gazette has been used to keep members informed about the various activities of the Society, but as it is issued only once a year and its space is valuable, we have decided to make more use of Newsletters in future, and to number them.

Several members have written expressing their approval of the recent issue of the Gazette (Volume 9 part 4), and we are glad to know that it has given satisfaction to both botanist and horticulturalist. This has only been achieved because our Editor has been provided with ample suitable material, and so long as this continues to come forward from members, the standard can be maintained. The removal of all matter more suited for inclusion in the Newsletters will make more space available for articles of interest, and we invite our gardening writers to make sure of their share.

Secretary's Report: The year 1962/63 has been another one of expansion and progress. Our membership increased by over 20, and we now have more than 150 members. The Society is much more alive and active, with an interesting annual programme of meetings, both outdoor and indoor, catering for the needs of an increasing number of our members. With increasing membership income increases, but costs also rise and we are unable to do all we would like to. If we can get the membership up to and over 200, however, there should be sufficient margin of income to give us some freedom from financial worry, and we ask everyone to keep this in mind and, whenever possible, recruit new members. It is suggested that local public libraries can be approached, inviting them to consider subscribing to the British Fern Gazette which will thus be brought before a larger public and possible new members. University members can also help by making a similar approach to their University Libraries.

Financial Statements: As the Statement for 1961/62 was not included in the Gazette, it is appended to this Newsletter followed by the 1962/63 Statement.

Additions to Membership List:

Miss Anne Ashberry, Chessins, Chignal-Smealey, Chelmsford, Essex.
P J Ellison, 7 Tudor Walk, Watford, Herts.
Miss N Creina Glegg, Chessins, Chignal-Smealey, Chelmsford, Essex.
Mrs M B May, 58 Bouverie Avenue, Salisbury, Wilts.
P J M Nethercott, 44 Upper Cranbrook Road, Redland, Bristol 6.
R C Olby, School of Botany, South Parks Road, Oxford.
Miss P A Sims, 131 Ruskin Park House, Champion Hill, London SE 5.
B A Thomas BSc, Department of Botany, The University, Reading, Berks.
Mrs G Trew, Corbar Cottage, Church Street, Matlock, Derbyshire.

Annual General Meeting and Committee Meeting Reports: The A.G.M. was held this year during the Annual Excursion, centred at Builth Wells in Wales, and was attended by 15 members. In deference to the wishes of Professor R E Holttum who has been our President for the past three years, he was not asked to stand again and Mr Reginald Kaye was nominated and elected unanimously to the Office. Professor Holttum becomes once more a Vice-President of the Society. All the other officers and committee were re-elected en bloc. Of particular interest was the election of Mr P Greenfield as an Honorary Member. He is also the holder of the Society's Stansfield Medal which is awarded to members who do outstanding work for the Society. With these two honours, the highest the Society can award, we have tried to show our appreciation of Mr Greenfield's great services over many years of membership.

A meeting of the Committee was held at the British Museum (Natural History) in London on the 19th October, the chief business on the Agenda being the planning of next year's programme which is appended.

The American Fern Journal: In spite of notices in the Gazette, very few members seem to be aware that we subscribe to the American Fern Society, and their quarterly Journal is available for circulation among those interested. Miss M I Tetley has been organising this and has been sending it to the very few who have applied and sent her stamped addressed envelopes. Perhaps it is the method employed which has discouraged members from applying, and we have decided to adopt a "Reading Circle" method of circulating it whereby "A" passes it on to "B", "B" to "C" and so on. Will members wishing to participate please inform the Secretary, and the scheme will be put into operation as soon as possible.

Fern Nursery Closing: We are very sorry to learn that Taylors Nursery, Bracknell, Berks which belongs to our members Mr and Mrs F J Healey, is closing down as the land is being swallowed up in the Bracknell New Town. Mr and Mrs Healey are retiring from nursery business and their stocks are being sold. They have a large stock of ferns for disposal, and members should not delay placing orders as everything has to be cleared before early summer.

Northern Horticultural Society, Harlow Car Gardens: We learn that the Superintendent of Harlow Car Gardens, Mr Geoffrey Smith, is interested in forming a collection of British fern varieties. Members with good varieties to spare are invited to send specimens, correctly named and with any known history, to Mr Geoffrey Smith, N H S Gardens, Harlow Car, Harrogate.

Professor R E Holttum: We are pleased to record that Professor Holttum has been honoured by the Fourth World Orchid Conference held in Singapore this Autumn. In recognition of his services to Orchidology he was presented with the Gold Medals of the American Orchid Society and the Malayan Orchid Society, and was given a standing ovation lasting several minutes by the delegates to the Conference.

To commemorate his outstanding services in pioneering and creating Malayan orchid hybrids, the Malayan Orchid Society is to coin a new medal, the Eric Holttum Orchid Medal, to be presented to the exhibitor of the local Malayan orchid hybrid which gains most points, while achieving an award. Professor Holttum was formerly Director of the Singapore Botanic Gardens, and the honour of winning the Medal will be great. (We are indebted to the Orchid Review for this information)

Professor Holttum left for the East in July and has only recently returned after travelling in Malaysia, Australia, China and India. He was also able to spend a month in New Guinea collecting in the tropical and mountain forests.

The late W C Buchanan: We regret to announce the death of our member, W C Buchanan of Bearsden, Dunbartonshire. In addition to his interest in ferns he was a noted alpine gardener, and some of his fine collections have gone to Edinburgh Botanic Gardens. An obituary will appear in the next issue of the Gazette.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT 30th JUNE 1962

1961 30 June		£	s	d		£	s	d
To Balance		10	5	5	Subscriptions			
	Subscriptions	75	15	8	R H S 2 2 0			
	Donations	12	7	0	Council for Nature 1 0 0			
	Sale of Gazettes and Books	33	18	8	American Fern Socy 18 6	4	0	6
Sundry Debtors - Due on advertisements in Gazette Vol 9 part 3		3	0	0	Cost of advertisements	2	15	0
					Secretarial Expenses	8	2	8
					Sundry Creditors - Due to the Courier for Gazette Vol 9 part 3	105	15	0
					Separates 2 7 6			
					Constitution leaflets 1 12 6	109	15	0
					BALANCE 30 June 1962	10	13	7
		£ 135	6	9		£ 135	6	9

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AT 30th JUNE 1963

1962 30 June		£	s	d		£	s	d
	To Balance		10	13	7			
	Subscriptions		120	16	6			
	Donations			9	3			
	Sales - Gazettes & Books 8 9 7							
	Census Lists 5 16 11							
	Plants 1 5 6		15	12	0			
	Sundry Debtors - Sale incomplete set of Gazettes 28 19 0							
	Advertisers in Gazette 3 0 0		31	19	0			
		£	179	10	4	£	179	10	4

Subscriptions							
R H S	2	2	0				
Council for Nature	2	0	0				
American Fern Socy	18	6		5	0	6	
Printing Leaflets				7	12	4	
Advertising				-	-	-	
Secretarial Expenses				8	9	6	
Transfer to Special Fund				30	0	0	
Sundry Creditors - The Courier for Gazette Vol 9 pt 4 (estimated)				110	0	0	
BALANCE at 30.6.63				18	8	0	

25th November 1963

J W Dyce,
Hon Secretary.

MEETINGS PROGRAMME FOR 1964

THE ANNUAL EXCURSION *

12-19 September

The centre will be "Brantwood", Coniston, the Council for Nature holiday and study centre in the Lake District. As we are unlikely to fill the available accommodation which takes 35 adults, it has been agreed to offer a course to non-members who will pay a fee of 10/- to the Society. The course will,however, be run virtually on the normal lines of an Annual Excursion with the addition os some lectures and demonstrations given by members.
Competent members will also be asked to take in hand a couple of non-members during the outings. The inclusive charge to members will be £8-15-0 for the week.
In order to estimate the number of places we can offer to non-members, those members who are interested and anticipate attending are asked to notify the Meetings Secretary without delay. BOOKINGS MUST BE CONFIRMED TO HIM, ACCOMPANIED BY A DEPOSIT OF £1 BEFORE 30th JUNE, after which date any places still available will be offered to non-members.
NOTE - No correspondence should be addressed to "Brantwood" as all the arrangements for members are in the hands of the Meetings Secretary.

INDOOR MEETINGS

Saturday, 14th March	A Talk by Mr Clive Jermy on his recent fern expedition to the West Indies, followed by a conversazione and members exhibits in the Lecture Theatre, Botany Dept, Imperial College, Prince Consort Road, London SW 7 at 2.30 pm. Bus to Albert Hall, or 10 minute walk from South Kensington Underground Station.
Saturday, 24th October	British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW 7 at 2.30 pm. Visit to the Herbarium.

DAY MEETINGS

Saturday, 16th May	Visit to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Meet at 11 am at Main Gate on Kew Green for Rock Garden and lunch at Cafeteria. Assemble at 2.30 pm at west door of Tropical Fern House when late-comers may join for visit to Fern Houses.
Saturday, 25th July	Visit to Chelsea Physic Garden at 2.30 pm. Enter by gate in Swan Walk (between Chelsea Embankment and Royal Hospital Road). Bus 39 or 49 to Cheyne Walk, or 10 minutes walk from Sloane Square Underground Station.
Sunday, 23rd August *	Tunbridge Wells District. Meet Eridge Railway Station at 10.52 am. (Train from Victoria 9.54, East Croydon 10.12 - times should be verified).

WEEKEND MEETING

Friday to Sunday * 19-21 June	The New Forest, Hants. Centre is Ye Olde Tea House, Brockenhurst, Hants. Bookings should be made in good time direct with the Proprietor.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 16th September	At "Brantwood", Coniston, at 8 pm. THIS IS A PRELIMINARY NOTICE ONLY.

MEETINGS IN THE NORTH	Members interested in day and weekend meetings in the North are asked to contact the Northern Meetings Secretary, Mr N Robinson, 27 Yewlands Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs.

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NOTE 1 With the exception of the A.G.M. no further information will be circulated concerning the above Meetings, and interested members must advise the Meetings Secretary, Flt Lt Peter Halligey, who will keep them informed. The attached form can be used for this purpose.

NOTE 2 For the Meetings marked with an * it is hoped that private car transport will be available for all who require it. To enable the necessary arrangements to be made, will members please mark "X" where applicable on the questionnaire and in the case of car owners the number of spare seats available.

Flt Lt P Halligey, Meetings Secretary, British Pteridological Society,
War Office Officers Mess, London SE 18.

I hope to attend the Meetings marked "X"

Please keep me informed.

	Travelling by car	No. of spare seats available	Request lift by car	Making own travel arrangements
The Annual Excursion 12-19 September				
Eridge (Tunbridge Wells) 23 August				
Weekend Meeting The New Forest, Hants 19-21 June				

Name.....

Address.....

.....

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THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO 2 JANUARY 1965

The festive season is behind us again, and we go forward wondering what the New Year has in store for us. We hope it will bring continued progress and expansion - these we all welcome, for they mean added power for our Society, but in their wake comes inevitably something else which not all of us welcome - change. Our beginning was based on the interest in fern varieties; all our members were variety hunters or growers, varieties were legion easily acquired in the wild and from nurseries, books poured from the printing presses dealing exhaustively with all aspects of the cult, and everyone was happy. But times change and the incidence of change increases more and more sharply. Today our membership is nearing the 200 mark, made up of roughly equal numbers of botanists and growers. The scientific interest in ferns is a rapidly growing one and our Editors are faced with the problem of trying to keep a balance in the Gazette between the botanist whose researches must be put on paper, and the horticulturalist unable or unwilling to commit anything to paper. Is this because everything has been written which can be written about fern variation? Is there nothing new to add to our knowledge of varieties? Change we must accept, but we refuse to accept that it means the end of the Society's interest in varieties, and we wait to see from among the 80 - 90 horticulturalists in our ranks practical proof that they still have plenty to contribute. Incidentally, recent correspondence with America indicates a growing interest in, and demand for fern varieties there.

Much has happened during the past year, and the first thing to note is an increase in membership of over 30. The Society is well advertised throughout the world in many ways and our foreign membership is growing. We have even penetrated the Iron Curtain, and also the Bamboo Curtain! The last issue of the Gazette was a specially large one, with the 10th International Botanical Congress in Edinburgh chiefly in mind. We had it on display at the Congress where its high standard attracted much attention. The favourable impression created is now bearing fruit in the increased number of applications for membership received. The Financial Statement, appended, shows how the generous support of a few members in donating the sum of £105 made this issue possible, for its cost was far above what could be paid from our annual income.

The high cost of printing is a serious problem for the smaller societies and our present membership is insufficient to adequately support the cost of producing the high standard Gazette which is essential for the continued success of the Society. Our extensive advertising does not bring in newcomers fast enough, and we appeal to members to do more active recruiting. We are very pleased to announce that we have made a successful application to the Royal Society, and are receiving from them the sum of £75 as a grant-in-aid towards the cost of our next Gazette. This will be a great help, but we must stress that such aid is only

given to help societies over difficult periods, to allow them time to get better organised to help themselves. In our case the grant-in-aid will enable us to produce another Gazette of high standard which will attract more new members. We feel there is no reason why this plus personal recruiting should not bring in up to 100 additions to our membership. The question of again raising the subscription rate has been mooted, and this we want to avoid for as long as possible. It appears we must raise either the membership or the subscription - I am sure we shall all favour the former course.

Some enquiries regarding membership have come from small local horticultural societies. Possibly the fine fern exhibits at Southport Flower Show have awakened this interest in ferns which we are glad to do all in our power to foster. At the request of one society we supplied a certificate for award to the best fern exhibit in their annual show. A supply of these certificates has been printed and we hope to have further requests for them.

Our meetings programme was most successful, culminating in the Annual Excursion at Brantwood, near Coniston in the Lake District. As is customary, this Meeting will be reported in the next Gazette. During the Excursion we held our A.G.M. and Mr Reginald Kaye was again elected President of the Society, and Mr J A Crabbe was appointed Assistant Editor to Mr A C Jermy - this appointment will entail a small change in our Constitution. Dr Frances M Jarrett was elected to fill Mr Crabbe's place on the Committee.

Very much on our minds these days is the proposed Excursion to Austria this year. Our Meetings Secretary has put in a tremendous amount of work planning this, and a circular covering it is sent with this Newsletter. Some members whom we know are definitely interested will have already received this circular. We earnestly ask all those who are considering joining the Excursion to let Mr Halligey know immediately. A great deal of work has to be done and it is essential we know the members likely to attend as soon as possible.

It is intended to publish a full membership list in the next issue of the Gazette, and it is therefore considered unnecessary to take up space in this Newsletter with a list of recent additions.

Although rather belated, we are very pleased to record that our member Mr H J Bruty was awarded the British Empire Medal in the 1964 New Year's Honours List. Mr Bruty is in charge of the Fern Houses in Kew Gardens, and the award is a recognition of his very valuable work there, coping successfully with the multitude of fern plants and spores which come from all corners of the earth, many of them new to cultivation.

It is proposed to form a Central Library of slides, colour or black-and-white, of ferns and their allies as an aid to lecturers and others who may find it useful to have such a collection available for their use. Those who do not wish to donate slides may be prepared to

submit lists of slides which they will be willing to loan. All members who are photographers are invited to send slides of ferns in pots, gardens or in their natural habitats, to start the Library. Mr R F Cartwright has kindly undertaken to act as Slide Librarian, and contributions and letters should be sent to him direct - Mr R F Cartwright, 143 Pittmans Field, Harlow, Essex.

Our Editor, Mr A C Jermy, will be returning in April from New Guinea where he is at present fern-hunting with an expedition which is studying the plant and animal life there. He will have much of interest to tell us on his return, and we look forward to talks and articles on the fern riches of New Guinea.

May we remind members once again that we have a Reading Circle for circulating the American Fern Journal. Anyone interested who is not already in the Circle should apply to the Secretary.

A letter has been received from Professor William Adams, The Biology Department, Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio, U.S.A. asking to be put in touch with members interested in the exchange of herbarium specimens of the ferns and fern allies of Britain and Europe, for species from the North American Continent. Correspondence should be addressed direct to Professor Adams.

The Secretary has received from the American Fern Society Spore Exchange their list of 1964 spores available. Copies can be sent to interested members on application. The University of Hull Botanic Garden also issues a list of seeds and spores offered for exchange. The Secretary has no copies for distribution and application should be made to Miss J K Frodin, Assistant Curator, Botanic Garden, The Department of Botany, University of Hull, Yorkshire.

We regret to announce the death of Mr Gerald Perry, a member of the well-known nursery firm Perrys Hardy Plant Farm. He had a great interest in hardy ferns which have always been one of the Firm's specialities. Another old member whose passing we mourn is Ernest Wiper, the son of one of the Society's founders. The family emigrated to Canada in the early years of the century, and took with them an intense interest in ferns which has continued unabated throughout the years. Right to the end of his long life Mr Wiper was an enthusiastic grower of our British ferns.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS AT 30th JUNE 1964

1963		£. s. d.		£. s. d.
June 30	To Balance	18 8 0	Subscriptions paid to R H S	2 2 0
	Subscriptions	122 2 6	Council for Nature	2 0 0
	Donations	2 15 3	American Fern Society	1 8 7 5 10 7
	Special Donations towards cost of Gazette Vol 9 part 5	105 0 0	Gazette Vol 9 pt 4 Actual cost	122 8 7
			Separates	1 6 6
	Sales - Gazettes			123 15 1
	Books		Less estimate allotted 1962/3	110 0 0 13 15 1
	Census Lists	4 3 10		
	Advertisement in Gazette	1 10 0	Gazette Vol 9 pt 5	210 15 0
			Stationery	1 0 0
			Secretarial expenses	13 0 0
			By Balance	9 18 11
		£253 19 7		£253 19 7
1964				
June 30	To Balance	£9 18 11		

20th Jamuary 1965

J W Dyce,
Hon Secretary.

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PROGRAMME FOR 1965

Saturday 13 February	Indoor Meeting - Conversazione at British Museum (Natural History, Cromwell Road, London SW7 at 2.30 pm.
*Sunday 30 May	Visit to Dr Wacher at Canterbury, to see his Fern Collection. (SEE NOTES BELOW)
Saturday 3 July	Kew Gardens and the Fern Houses. Meet 11.30 am at Main Entrance on Kew Green; at 2.30 pm at West Entrance to Tropical Fern House.
*Friday/Sunday 23/25 July, OR FOR FOLLOWING WEEK TILL Saturday 31 July	Weekend Meeting in Ashdown Forest. MEMBERS NOT ATTENDING THE ANNUAL EXCURSION IN AUSTRIA MAY WISH TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND A WEEK IN ASHDOWN FOREST WHICH CAN PROVIDE GOOD HUNTING. (SEE NOTES BELOW)
Saturday/Sunday 21 Aug/ 5 Sept.	Annual Excursion - 2 weeks in Austria. (SEE SEPARATE CIRCULAR)
Saturday 18 September	Annual General Meeting at British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW7 at 2.30 pm.
Saturday 23 October	Indoor Meeting - Details will be sent out with the A.G.M. Notice.

NOTE 1 With the exception of the A.G.M., further necessary information regarding the above meetings, in particular those marked with *, will be advised only to members who complete the attached form and return it to the Meetings Secretary.

NOTE 2 For the meetings marked with * private car transport will be used. Will members please mark the questionnaire accordingly.

NOTE 3 It is hoped to find suitable hotel accommodation in the vicinity of East Grinstead for the Ashdown Forest Meeting, and it is necessary for members attending this meeting to advise Mr Halligey as soon as possible, and to state for how long the accommodation will be required.

PLEASE RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND NOT LATER THAN END OF FEBRUARY

To: Mr Peter Halligey, Garnett College, Minstead Gardens, London SW15

I hope to attend the Meetings marked "X"

Please keep me informed

	Mark "X"	Travelling by car	No. of spare seats available	Request lift by car	Making own travel arrangements
Visit to Dr Wacher Sunday 30 May					
Kew Gardens Saturday 3 July		//	//	//	//
Ashdown Forest weekend – 23/25 July					
week – 23/31 July					
part of week from ..... to					

Name . . . . . .

Address . . . . . .

. . . . . .

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

PROPOSED 1965 EXCURSION TO AUSTRIA.

It has been suggested that the Annual Excursion be held on the Continent next year. Enquiries from Continental botanists have indicated that the Niedere Tauern region of Austria offers interesting fern country including some rarities. Travel agents who have been consulted state that this is off the main tourist beat and that accommodation costs there would be reasonable.

It is not possible to make an exact estimate of cost until it is known how many are likely to come. When this is known the best method of travel can be decided and a detailed itinerary drawn up for costing. However, for an excursion leaving London and returning there 14 days later, travel agents have indicated that, provided there are sufficient numbers, it could be done at between £35 and £40 per head. It is thought that by holding the excursion in the latter part of August, perhaps into early September, a maximum number of members will be able to come, and that some may consider making this their annual family holiday. If there is sufficient demand alternative sightseeing tours and other activities would be arranged for those not wishing merely to see ferns. It is advised, however, that except for train travel no reductions for children are likely, and that there would be difficulties in including children under the age of eight.

Members who are interested are asked to complete the proforma below and send it to the Meetings Secretary <u>without delay</u>. This will involve no obligation, but provided there is sufficient response it is hoped to provide fuller details and cost by about the end of September. Firm bookings will be required before the end of the year in order to secure the hotel accommodation.

- -

To: P Halligey, Garnett College Hostel,
Minstead Gardens, London SW 15.

I am interested in the proposed excursion to Austria in 1965 and wish to receive further details.

I shall probably/possibly come

I shall probably/possibly be accompanied by .... adults and ..... children (state age(s)).

<u>Remarks</u>. (State if you have any preferred dates and what length of excursion you favour)

Name and address: .....

.....

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

EXCURSION TO AUSTRIA 1965

A circular with reply proforma was sent out at the end of August with details of a proposed excursion to Austria in 1965. The response to this was poor, but at a meeting held at Brantwood on 18 September it was evident that a small number of active members were very keen on the idea. It was agreed that the journey would hardly be justified for a period of less than a fortnight and the dates 28 August - 12 September were proposed, but it is now apparent that a number of members will not be able to come unless the dates are put forward to 21 August - 5 September.

As this will be an unique opportunity for many members it is planned to travel widely and visit as many representative sites in Austria as time allows. The time will be evenly divided between Steiermark (Styria) with specialised serpentine and limestone sites for rare Asplenіums etc., and the Tyrol with a lusher fern vegetation and its renowned scenery. As the first week will be strenuous an alternative arrangement will be made for those who may like to leave the main party at Salzburg, and spend a week at this very attractive town from which many excursions may be made; they will rejoin the main party for the second week in the Tyrol where the programme can be made flexible and can include alternative strenuous and less strenuous excursions. The last day will be spent in Innsbruck for shopping and a little sightseeing.

Travel will be mainly by 2nd Class train, the round trip being booked at party rates to and from London, but it may be possible for a limited number of individuals to return independently from the main party without extra cost. Passages on cross-Channel steamers will be 1st Class, the extra cost of £1 being advised. Couchettes or sleeping berths are available at extra cost on the continental trains in both directions.

Accommodation will be booked at inexpensive hotels or gasthofs which as far as possible have been personally recommended. Normally double rooms will be booked unless individuals request single rooms and are prepared to pay a little more. There will be opportunities for those who wish to spend nights in alpine huts. It is recommended that we normally make an early start to the day, rising at 6.00am and doing most of the climbing before the sun gets hot.

Outline of proposed itinerary

The train departs from London (Victoria) at 3.00pm on Saturday 21 August via Dover-Ostend and the Tauern Express. It arrives at Salzburg at about 11.30am next day, but the main party continues to Graz and then takes a local train to Deutschlandsberg, arriving about 7.30pm. We stay at the Burg Hotel which is a converted castle, complete with ghost, in pleasant surroundings and well recommended. From the hotel a footpath leads straight to the wooded valley of the River Lassnitz which is a Nature Reserve. This abounds in Dryopteris species, including D. X tavelii, but is especially noted for Polystichums, including P. setiferum which is rare in Austria, P. braunii, P. lobatum and several hybrids.

After two days we move to Kirchdorf, about 35 km. north of Graz, and stay there three days. The nearby serpentine areas are noted for Aspleniums, including the European species A. adulterinum, A. cuneifolium and the two common sub-species of A. trichomanes. By contrast, there are limestone areas with A. ruta-muraria, A. viride, the glandular A. lepidum and the recently published A. trichomanes ssp. inexpectans, and possibly Cystopteris regia. We then move to Kraubath, 15 km. S.W. of Leoben, for two nights stay and a day on the very rich serpentine area which should add Notholaena marantae to the aforementioned serpentine species.

Sunday will be a travelling day and we will rejoin the Salzburg party on the way to Krimml where we stay one night. The next day we explore the noted valley and waterfall of the Krimml Ache, and depart the same evening by bus which takes the new and scenic High Alpine Road over the Gerlos Pass to Mayrhofen, then 10 km. south to Ginzling. This is a quiet but excellent centre lying at the foot of three wooded valleys with endless excursion possibilities. It is proposed to stay here for four days with a free programme. There is a wide choice of alpine huts within walking reach for those who wish to try them.

On the last Saturday we depart for Innsbruck for a morning's shopping, and it is proposed to have a short sightseeing tour with a guide before departing on the Arlsberg Express at 5.43 pm. We travel via Calais and Folkestone, arriving in London (Victoria) at 3.50 pm. on Sunday 5 Sept.

Details of cost

Note: The present rate of exchange for Austrian Schillings is 72 to £1.

Inclusive train fare from and to London 2nd Class (1st Class on boat) about £21, less for those stopping at Salzburg.

Medical insurance at party rate 14/-.

Average gasthof price per night at half double rate about A.S.30 in Steirmark, or A.S.40 in Salzburg or Tyrol. Thus one can live for about £1 per day.

The total cost should not exceed £40 from and to London.

Extras:	2nd Class	sleeper Ostend-Salzburg	£3: 4:0
	"	couchette " "	£1: 1:0
	2nd Class	sleeper Innsbruck-Calais	£4:19:6
	"	couchette " "	£1: 8:3

There will be some reduction in train fares for children aged 14 or less, depending on age, but no reduction for accommodation is anticipated.

Please return as soon as possible, and not later than end of February.

To: Mr P Halligey
Garnett College
Minstead Gardens
London SW 15.

I intend to join the proposed Austrian Excursion in 1965.
My party will be comprised as follows (state names):

To Steirmark and Tyrol: To Salzburg and Tyrol:

(State age if less than 15 at time of travel)

Please reserve:

	2nd Class couchettes	2nd Class sleeping berths
Ostend-Salzburg	.....	.....
Innsbruck-Calais	.....	.....

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

EXCURSION TO AUSTRIA 1965

The party for the Excursion to Austria now comprises 22 members and friends, and we shall be joined by others in Austria for part of the time. We are therefore eligible for cheaper travel costs.

The arrangements for the journeys to and from Austria have been put into the hands of Thomas Cook and Sons who now require a deposit of £1 per head, plus a non-returnable deposit of 16/- from those who are booking sleeping berths (NOT couchettes). These deposits should be sent without delay to Mr Peter Halligey, Garnett College, Minstead Gardens, London SW 15, and cheques should be made payable to Mr Halligey personally, and NOT to the Society. The full cost of the railway fare amounting to about £20 must be paid before 24 July and the exact amount, when known, will be claimed from members before this date.

Members are reminded that valid Passports or British Visitors Passports will be required. We are informed that it will be unnecessary to obtain Plant Import Licences beforehand, and members wishing to bring back plants will be advised during the Excursion on the procedure to be adopted.

Books recommended for the Excursion are -

Central European Ferns: "Farne im Herzen Europas" by Georg Eberle, obtainable from Dillons Bookshop, 1 Malet Street, London WC 1. Price 16/6. (postage 1/-)
See review in British Fern Gazette Vol. 9, part 2, page 53.

Alpine Flowers (excluding Ferns): "Alpenflora" by Gustav Hegi, revised by Hermann Merxmuller, 18th edition.
Reviewed in Proc. B.S.B.I. Vol. 5, page 412 (October 1964).

It is now realised that the Salzburg Festival is being held in August, and this information has been passed on to those who elected to stay there during the first week. They have all expressed the wish to travel with the main party and stay at Deutschlandsberg for the first two days. During the following three strenuous days they may elect to remain at Deutschlandsberg, or stay at another nearby centre such as Graz. It will be unnecessary to make advance bookings for this accommodation.

PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY: - It is confirmed that the following arrangements are being made on your behalf -

(a) Railway travel at party rate leaving London 21 August and returning there 5 September, 2nd Class on train, 1st Class on Channel boats.
(b) Sleeping berths on outward and return overnight journeys.
(c) Accommodation at the Excursion centres throughout the period.

Any enquiries or problems concerning the Excursion should be addressed to Mr Halligey who will endeavour to assist in any way he can.

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

EXCURSION TO AUSTRIA 1965

This is the final circular regarding the Austrian Excursion. You are reminded that the train leaves Victoria Station, London, at 3.00 pm on Saturday 21 August. Seats will be booked for the party. You should bring with you your passport and sufficient money for food and accommodation. About £1 per day should be sufficient in Austria, but consider the meals to be taken on two long train journeys. Transport from centre to centre will be by train or bus, but you are recommended to travel light. Do not omit suitable clothing for hot weather, and footwear for walking. Please notify me if you are contemplating collecting any live plants.

Insurance

You are strongly advised to take out an insurance covering loss of baggage, personal accident, and medical expenses. Mr Dyce can arrange a suitable cover through the Yorkshire Insurance Company on favourable terms at a premium of £1. If you wish to avail yourself of this, make out a cheque for £1 payable to Mr J W Dyce personally. The cheque may be sent to me together with your cheque for Thomas Cook (see below), but any queries on this matter should be addressed to Mr Dyce.

"Alpenflora" by Hegi/Merxmuller

This is also available from Dillons Bookshop at 28/6.

Change of address

Please note that after 2 July my address will be:

"Territet"
5 Ravenscourt Road
LYMINGTON, Hants. Phone: 3982 (STD Code OLY.07)

P. Halligey
Meetings Secretary.

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Itinerary for Austrian Excursion 1965

Sat 21/8	1500	Dep. London (Victoria)
	1700	Dep. Dover Marine } 1st Class
	2020	Arr. Ostend } 1st Class
	2100	Dep. Ostend - Tauern Express - Brussels - Koln - Munich
Sun 22/8	1125	Bischofshofen - Bruck s.d. Mur
	1820	Arr. Graz Hbf. Meal at Station restaurant
	1925	Dep. Graz - Lieboch - (19c). Note: Figures in brackets refer to Timetables in OBB Kursbuck.
	2049	Arr. Deutschlandsberg. Stay at Burg Hotel.
Mon 23/8		Late rise. Day in Lassnitzklause.
Tue 24/8	0600	Rise (henceforth at this time unless otherwise stated)
		Another day in Lassnitzklause.
	1747	Dep. Deutschlandsberg - Lieboch (19c)
	1907	Arr. Graz Hbf. Dinner at Station restaurant.
	2010	Dep. Graz (15)
	2108	Arr. Pernegg. Stay at Maria Hiebaum Gasthof, Kirchdorf.
Wed 25/8		Local excursion Kirchdorf/Trafoss.
Thu 26/8	0714	Dep. Pernegg (15)
	0721	Arr. Mixnitz, excursion up Barenschutzklamm.
	1743	Dep. Mixnitz (15)
	1756	Arr. Pernegg
Fri 27/8	0714	Dep. Pernegg with luggage (15)
	0721	Arr. Mixnitz. Leave luggage at station. Excursion to Drachenhohle (limestone). Alternatively more serpentine.
	1743	Dep. Mixnitz (15)
	1804	Arr. Bruck s.d. Mur - change.
	1830	Dep. Bruck (20)
	1851	Arr. Leoben - change.
	1909	Dep. Leoben.
	1946	Arr. Kraubath. Stay at gasthofs, possibly at Leising.
Sat 28/8		Excursion on In der Gulsing.
Sun 29/8	0951	Dep. Kraubath (20)
	1000	Arr. St Michael - change.
	1114	Dep. St Michael (11)
		Note: Should it prove possible to hire a self-drive minibus at Graz the above programme may be modified.
	1525	Arr. Bischhofshofen - change.
	1557	Dep. Bischhofshofen (1)
	1613	Arr. Schwarzach St Veit.
	1623	Dep. Schwarzach St Veit (1).
	1703	Arr. Zell-am-Zee - change.
	1712	Dep. Zell-am-Zee (40a)
	1911	Arr. Krimml. Gasthof Klockerhaus.

Mon 30/8		Excursion to Krimmler Ache Waterfalls.
	1707	Dep. Krimml (bus 1146) up High Alpine Road and over Gerloss Pass.
	1910	Arr. Mayrhofen - change.
	1955	Dep. Mayrhofen (bus 1148).
	2035	Arr. Ginzling. Gasthof Maria Eberhartier.
Tue 31/8 - Fri 3/9		Excursions from Ginzling. Flexible programme. Several possibilities for parties to stay at alpine huts.
Sat 4/9	0720	Dep. Ginzling (bus 1148)
	0800	Arr. Mayrhofen - change.
	0830	Dep. Mayrhofen (train 40b).
	0942	Arr. Jenbach - change.
	1010	Dep. Jenbach (1)
	1035	Arr. Innsbruck. Shops open till 1300. After lunch sightseeing with guide.
	1743	Dep. Innsbruck - Arlberg Express (Calais Branch) - Basle - Hirson - Lille -
Sun 5/9	1056	Arr. Calais Maritime.
	1205	Dep. Calais)
	1335	Arr. Folkestone Harbour) 1st Class.
	1425	Dep. Folkestone
	1550	Arr. London (Victoria).

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 3. DECEMBER 1965

The Society contimues to grow, and the past year has brought in a record number of nearly 50 new members. About half of these come from abroad, a gratifying proof that our Gazette is circulating far and wide, and is making its contribution in the fern world. The last issue published in July upholds the high standard which we have set, but this has been achieved at a high cost, and one which the Society cannot maintain on its present financial resources. The Financial Statement which is appended shows how our funds were utilised during the year. One item needs explanation - the Special Account balance of £70. This has been built up from the sale of back numbers of the Gazette and will be used for reprinting early issues which are completely or almost out of stock, and for which there is an increasing demand. It will be noted how essential was the Royal Society grant-in-aid for £75 towards the cost of the Gazette and we are approaching them again this year for a contribution towards the next issue.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES It will be obvious to all that the time has come for us to do something ourselves about our finances, and as the membership increase is insufficient to raise our income enough to meet rising costs, and as the Royal Society will not continue its grant-in-aid indefinitely, we have with great reluctance to face the fact that the subscription rate must be raised. This was discussed at the Annual General Meeting, when it was agreed that we cannot manage on a subscription rate of less than 25/-, but as the matter was not included in the circulated agenda, the Meeting was not empowered to give the necessary approval for the increase, and an Extraordinary General Meeting is being held on the 19th February 1966 to deal with this so that the new rates can come into force on the 1st July 1966. The suggested rates are - members 25/-, family, junior and student members 15/-, and subscribers 25/-. This step is being taken with the greatest regret, and we hope that all our members will appreciate the great difficulties under which we and other societies are labouring these days, and continue to give us their loyal support. And may we again appeal to everyone to help recruit new members. At the moment we are about 220 strong, and if we can raise this figure to over 300 we shall be in a much stronger position.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS At the 62nd Annual General Meeting of the Society held on the 20th September 1965 Mr Reginald Kaye was again elected President for a third term of office. The other officers and committee members were re-elected with the exception of the Meetings Secretary, Mr Peter Halligey, who has moved away from London to take up a new post which leaves him with no time to organise our meetings. This office was created a few years ago to remove from the Secretary some of his ever-increasing duties and Mr Halligey has done a magnificent job, culminating in his brilliant organisation of the Austrian Excursion. We accepted his resignation with the utmost regret and extend to him our grateful thanks for his services to the Society, together with our good wishes for success and happiness in his future life. Messrs R F Cartwright and P Temple were appointed by the Committee to the Office as

Joint Meetings Secretaries, and are already hard at work on the 1966 Programme.

FERN DISPLAY There has been talk for several years among some of our members about the possibility of putting up a fern display at one of the R.H.S. Fortnightly Shows, and at last something is going to be done. Mr Cartwright has undertaken to arrange a table display at the R.H.S. Show which is to be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 14th and 15th of June 1966. Help of course will be required, and members living within reasonable distance of London who grow pot ferns are asked to consider lending plants for the display. Enquiries and offers of help should be addressed direct to Mr R F Cartwright, 143 Pittmans Field, Harlow, Essex, and please contact him as soon as possible so that he can plan ahead. Ferns of exhibition standard are not necessary but would be very welcome. The aim is to make a representative display of ferns to attract and interest possible recruits among the large number of people who visit these shows.

SLIDE LIBRARY And while Mr Cartwright's name is before us, please do not forget that he is the custodian of the Society's Slide Library. Very few members have so far made any contributions to this, and we would like to see it built up so that selections of slides will be available for lending, to illustrate fern talks and for identification purposes.

SOUTHPORT FLOWER SHOW At Southport Flower Show in August the Society again had a stand in the Societies Tent. This was staffed by a few of our northern members who were kept busy answering the questions of many interested callers. Several members called and we wish it to be known that there is an open invitation to all members and friends visiting the Flower Show to call at our Stand and make themselves known to our representatives who will be pleased to welcome them for a chat on ferns.

UPPER TEESDALE DEFENCE FUND Everyone with an interest in the British flora will be aware of the threat to Upper Teesdale, an area of outstanding botanical importance, by the plans sponsored by I.C.I. to build a reservoir which would flood the area. The Botanical Society of the British Isles and the Northumberland and Durham Naturalists Trust launched an appeal for £5000 to oppose the scheme at a public enquiry. However, certain common rights have been discovered over the land which it is proposed to flood, and these can only be overridden by Act of Parliament. The cost of opposing the scheme is therefore going to be much greater than at first anticipated, and although over £7500 has already been donated, much more is needed. At our A.G.M. the Secretary was authorised to send a contribution on behalf of the Society, and together with a collection made from the members present at the Meeting, the sum of £3-3-0 was sent. Other members may care to contribute to this very worthy cause, and the Secretary will be pleased to receive contributions, or they may be sent direct to the Upper Teesdale Defence Fund, c/o The British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London.

An excellent illustrated booklet of 70 pages "The Natural History of Upper Teesdale" is published by the Northumberland and Durham Naturalists Trust. This contains a variety of articles dealing with Mankind, Geology, Flora and Vegetation, Insects and Vertebrates, and concludes with a chapter on Conservation. This booklet is recommended to those wishing to understand the background of this most controversial issue in conservation, and can be obtained for 5/6 post free from the General Secretary, Northumberland and Durham Naturalists Trust Ltd, Hancock Museum, Barras Bridge, Newcastle-on-Tyne 2.

FERN NURSERIES There would appear to be very few nurseries in Britain stocking ferns, although the possible answer is that not many advertise the fact. The Secretary receives many appeals from members and also from non-members asking where certain ferns can be obtained. Enquirers are always referred to the few nurseries we know, but their stocks do not always include the ferns which are asked for, and it occurs to us that with our membership well scattered throughout the country, some members may know of local nurseries which are interested in ferns, either hardy or greenhouse. If so, please let the Secretary know, so that their names can be added to the fern nursery list.

FERN HUNTING IN NEW GUINEA Our Editor, Mr A C Jermy, returned in the early summer from a fern-collecting expedition in New Guinea, sponsored by the British Museum (Natural History) and Newcastle-on-Tyne University. Dr T G Walker from the University joined him in this venture. Many interesting ferns were discovered, and collections of plants and herbarium specimens sent home. At our first meeting in 1966, on Saturday the 19th February, Mr Jermy is to talk about the Expedition, and we look forward to an interesting meeting at which we hope to welcome a large gathering of members and friends.

SPORE EXCHANGES We would remind members that the American Fern Society has a Spore Exchange, organised by Mr Neill D Hall, 1225 N.E. 95th Street, Seattle 15, Washington, U.S.A., who sends out annually lists of the species held, and is glad to receive gifts of spores. The latest list has recently been received by the Secretary, and copies can be obtained either from him or direct from Mr Hall.

Three of our overseas members -

Mrs E S Bayley, Danbury Park, Postbox 21 MR, Marlborough, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

G Kunkel, Camino Viejo 9, Tafira Alta, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Canary Islands.

Mrs G E Tierney, 593 Buchanan Street, Hillside, New Jersey 07205, USA. have recently offered to exchange fern spores, and interested members should write to them direct.

READING CIRCLE Tha American Fern Journal is available to members who join our Reading Circle. Requests to join should be sent to the Secretary. For all those who are seriously interested in ferns, the annual subscription to the American Fern Society (U.S.$4.00) is very well worth while. The American Fern Journal is issued in four parts each year.

NEW MEMBERS The British Fern Gazette, Volume 9 part 6, contains a complete membership list. Members who have joined since the list was published are -

Mrs Edith S Bayley, Danbury Park, Postbox 21 MR, Marlborough, Salisbury, Rhodesia.
Botanical Institute, Laboratory of Morphology and Systematics, Ledeganckstraat 39, Ghent, Belgium.
Fredrick C Boutin, 605½ West Duarte Road, Monrovia, California, USA.
British Council, 59 New Oxford Street, London WC 1.
J B Cranston, Gardeners Cottage, The Abbey, Old Abbey Road, North Berwick, East Lothian.
John Drinkall, Hallgill, Catshaw, Over Wyresdale, Lancaster.
T W Drury, St Mary's House, 255 Blackbull Lane, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs.
Mrs M E Dunn, 145 Victoria Avenue, Dalkeith, Western Australia.
Miss P Insall, 8 Alders Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
Miss G M Jiggle, 7 Cedar Road, Tottenham, London N 17.
Gunther Kunkel, Camino Viejo 9, Tafira Alta, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Canary Islands.
Stewart Mitchell, 1 Muirfield Crescent, Dundee, Angus.
Newcastle-upon-Tyne University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 1.
New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York 10458, USA.
C N Page, BSc, Department of Botany, The University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 1.
Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh 3.
Dr W A Sledge, BSc, PhD, Department of Botany, The University, Leeds 2.
Gordon Stowell, 17 St James Avenue, Hampton Hill, Middlesex.

OBITUARIES We announce with regret the deaths of two members, Mr G W B Barltrop and Mrs M B May. Mr Barltrop of Nelson in New Zealand was a member of our Society for many years, and was also a founder member of the Nelson Fern Society. He resigned a few years ago because of ill-health and advancing years but kept in touch with the Secretary. Mrs May of Salisbury joined us only a few years ago, and in spite of her age was an active participant in many of our field meetings. She planned to join the Excursion to Austria this past summer, but was prevented by the illness which has since proved fatal.

December 1965

J W Dyce, Hon Secretary.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS AT 30 JUNE 1965

ORDINARY ACCOUNT

1964		£. s. d.			£. s. d.
June 30	To Balance	9 18 11	By Subscriptions -		
	Subscriptions	185 11 10	Royal Hort. Society	3 3 0	
	Donations	9 0 4	Council for Nature	2 0 0	
	Grant-in-aid from		American Fern Society	1 8 8	6 11 8
	Royal Society	75 0 0	Gazette Vol 9 part 5 - part cost blocks and offprints		10 3 9
	Sales - Gazettes 49 7 10		Gazette Vol 9 part 6	207 14 0	
	Census lists 1 9 1		Blocks and offprints	20 4 6	227 18 6
	Distribution Cards 2 6		Printing - Application for Membership Forms	6 14 9	
	Offprints from Gazette V.9-6 6 0 0	56 19 5	Distribution Cards	4 3 4	10 18 1
	Sundry Creditors - Deposit on Austrian bookings	5 2 0	Deposit on Austrian bookings		5 2 0
			Secretarial and Editorial Expenses		31 0 0
			Transfer to Special Account		40 0 0
			Balance at 30 June 1965		9 18 6
		£341 12 6			£341 12 6
1965					
June 30	To Balance	£ 9 18 6			

SPECIAL ACCOUNT

1964 June 30 -	To Balance	£ 30 0 0	
1965 June 30 -	Transfer from Ord. A/C - Sale Gazettes	40 0 0	By Balance 30 June 1965 £ 70 0 0
		£ 70 0 0	£ 70 0 0
1965 June 30 -	To Balance	£ 70 0 0	

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PROGRAMME FOR 1966

Saturday 19 February		Indoor Meeting, preceded by short Extraordinary General Meeting, (SEE SEPARATE NOTICE) at the British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW 7, at 2.30 pm. Mr Jermy will talk on his fern collecting expedition to New Guinea.
Saturday 11 June	*	Field Meeting in Chiddingfold-Dunsfold area of Surrey. Meet at Godalming Railway Station at 11 am. (SEE NOTES 1 & 2).
Tuesday/Wednesday 14/15 June		Fern Display at the Fortnightly Show of the R.H.S. in their Halls at Westminster, London. (SEE NOTE 4).
Friday /Sunday 15/17 July	*	Weekend Meeting at North Walsham, Norfolk. (SEE NOTES 1 & 2).
Saturday 6 August	*	Visit to Mr G S Thomas's Garden, at Briar Cottage, Fairfield Lane, West End, Woking, Surrey, in the afternoon at 2.30 pm. (SEE NOTES 1 & 2)
Saturday/Saturday 10/17 September	*	Annual Excursion, centred at the Edgemoor Hotel, Bovey Tracey, South Devon. (SEE NOTE 3).
Wednesday 14 September		Annual General Meeting, to be held at the Edgemoor Hotel, Bovey Tracey, South Devon.
Saturday 8 October		Indoor Meeting - Exhibition and Conversazione, at the British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW 7 at 2.30 pm.

NORTHERN MEETINGS — Mr N Robinson hopes to arrange weekend meetings at Moffat in Dumfriesshire in June, and at Settle in West Yorks. in early July or early September, PROVIDED THERE IS SUFFICIENT SUPPORT. Will interested members please write to Mr Robinson direct at 27 Yewlands Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, so that he will have ample time in which to make arrangements and book accommodation.

NOTE 1. With the exception of the Annual General Meeting, further necessary information regarding the Meetings, in particular those marked with an asterisk, will be advised only to members who complete and return the attached form to the Meetings secretaries.

NOTE 2. For the Meetings marked with an asterisk, private car transport will be used. Will members please mark the form accordingly.

NOTE 3. Members hoping to join the Annual Excursion should advise the Meetings Secretaries, BUT MUST MAKE THEIR OWN ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE EDGEMOOR HOTEL, STATING THEY ARE MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY. Accommodation for 20 members is being held for us until Easter 1966, and it is essential that bookings be made before this date. Weekly terms are £15-15/- in the Main Building and £12-12/- in the attached Annexe, packed lunches extra. Only a few single rooms are available, the others are twin-bedded. Arrangements have been made for any overflow to be accommodated in the nearby Prestbury Country House Hotel, terms £13-13/- to £14-14/-, and it will be assumed that applicants are prepared to accept these arrangements unless they instruct otherwise. Members wishing to remain an extra day may book their rooms up to Sunday, 18 September. A number of hotel brochures are available and will be sent with any other information to those who advise the Meetings Secretaries that they hope to attend.

NOTE 4. Members within reasonable distance of London who are willing to lend pot ferns for the Display are asked to advise Mr Cartwright who is making all the arrangements.

PLEASE RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND NOT LATER THAN THE END OF FEBRUARY.

To: Mr R F Cartwright, 143 Pittmans Field, Harlow, Essex.

I hope to attend the Meetings marked "X". Please keep me informed.

	Mark "X"	Travelling by car	Spare seats available	Request lift by car	Making own travel arrangements
Chiddingfold/ Dunsfold Sat 11 June					
Norfolk Weekend 15/17 July					
Visit to Mr G S Thomas Sat 6 August					
Annual Excursion Week 10-17/18 Sept.					

Name . . . . . .

Address . . . . . .

. . . . . .

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 4 NOVEMBER 1966

The Newsletter is now fulfilling a more important role in the life of the Society. At one time printing costs were so low that we could include in the Gazette much information of minor importance and what the Editor calls "chit-chat", but this is no longer possible, and so the Newsletter comes into its own. It has this advantage that it forms a more informal medium through which we can reach our members, to give you the "family" news, so if you have any news items of general interest please send them to me and we shall be pleased to include them.

SECRETARIAL CHIT-CHAT The Society has fared well during the past year, and with a continuing fast increase in size - membership is up again this year by 40 (see list of new members) - we are becoming very much stronger snd able to make a mark in the world of ferns. But all this means more work for your Secretary/Treasurer, and I am now finding it almost a full-time job to keep the machine running smoothly. I hope therefore that you will bear with me if I am sometimes rather dilatory in answering letters, but also I hope you will give me that little extra consideration which relieves me of much unnecessary work, such as the old, old problem of unpaid subscriptions! Why not pay yours by bankers order? It saves both you and me a lot of work which is passed on to your bankers. But we cannot rely even on our bankers these days - I am one, so I know, and as your Treasurer this knowledge has recently been driven home hard! Some banks have failed to give effect to their customers' instructions to increase their subscription payments to 25/-, others have made sure by paying both 17/6 and 25/-, BUT, I am sorry to say, some members have also transgressed and have failed even to this day to inform their banks about the increase. I tried my best to make it as easy as possible for everyone, and even supplied new bankers order forms. A "heart-rending" circular appeal sent to the transgressors has not rendered them any more sympathetic to my tribulations, so if you are one of them, I would ask you once again in all earnestness to send me that 7/6 you owe to the Society, and make sure you instruct your bank to pay the correst amount next year.

Having had my moan, can I ask if there are any good typists among our members , within reasonable distance from me, who would be prepared to do odd typing jobs, such as addressing envelopes and cutting stencils for the Newsletter and other circulars which have to be sent out from time to time. This would relieve me of some routine tasks, and allow me to give more time to my other duties on behalf of the Society.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held this year at Bovey Tracey in South Devon during the Annual Excursion, and several things of note happened. The most important was the election of a new President. In accordance with our established practice, Mr Reginald Kaye resigned after holding the Office for a period of three years, and Dr James Davidson of West Linton in Peebles-shire was elected in his place. Mr Kaye has been a popular President and we thank him for all he has done for us during his term of

office. He now becomes a Vice-President again. Dr Davidson, like Mr Kaye, is a keen grower of ferns and alpines, and is also President of the Scottish Rock Garden Club. His father was an early member of our Society, and the Doctor has grown up in an atmosphere of ferns. We welcome him to our highest Office and look forward to a happy association with him during his Presidency. We are proud also to welcome as a new Vice-President, Professor Irene Manton of Leeds University, one of our most eminent research workers in the fern world today. It is a great honour for the Society to include her name among our Vice-Presidents. There have been changes also in the Committee. Three members, Mr B Hayhurst, Mrs J R Healey and Mr R M Payne have resigned and we have to thank them for all their past labours on our behalf. New Committee members are Dr John D Lovis of Leeds University and Mr W Wright to whom we extend a warm welcome.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT for our year ended 30 June 1966 is appended. You will note from this that our finances are much stronger and we hope that this improvement will continue. We acknowledge gratefully the help of the Royal Society which has put us in this very satisfactory position. They have enabled us to establish ourselves more securely, and with the increase in the subscription rate and a continuing rise in our membership, we shall now be much better placed to become self-supporting. I again appeal to all members to continue recruiting new members. At the moment we are about 250 strong, and we would like to see the figure exceeding the 300 mark during the coming year. Another transfer has been made to the Special Account, and this fund built up during the past few years from the sale of back issues of the Gazette, now stands at £166. Many of the early numbers are out of stock, and to satisfy the demand for them we have to consider reprinting by one of the cheap modern photographic processes. It is therefore meet that sale proceeds of back numbers should be diverted for this purpose. We are finding it extremely difficult to get the necessary copying done at a price within our means, and if any members can help in any way or make helpful suggestions we shall be grateful.

MEETINGS Reports on meetings with the exception of the Annual Excursion, will no longer appear in the Gazette, and in future will be included in the Newsletter. Our two indoor meetings, held at the British Museum (Natural History), were well attended, and at the spring one held on 19 February Mr Jermy gave a most interesting talk accompanied by slides on his fern collecting expedition to New Guinea. The autumn meeting held on 8 October took the form of an exhibition and conversazione. Fern plants were shown by Mr R F Cartwright, Mr A C Jermy and the Secretary, herbarium specimens by Dr F M Jarrett, and books and slides by the Editors. The Secretary gave a brief account of the Annual Excursion. The meeting held on 11 June in the Chiddingfold/Dunsfold area in Surrey was poorly attended; only three members turned up but they had a good day. The weekend meeting on 15-17 July in Norfolk was centred at Coltishall, and the eight members who attended had an active time. We ranged widely over the Broads, finding many ferns, but the chief object of the visit, Dryopteris cristata, eluded us although we searched assiduously in places where it is known to grow. On the 6 August we visited our member Mr G S Thomas to see his garden at West End near Woking in Surrey. In spite of heavy rain during the whole

afternoon we contrived from beneath the shelter of coats and umbrellas to see his ferns and many of the other interesting plants he grows in his lovely garden. We appreciated his hospitality and thank him for extending an invitation to visit him again in 1967 when we hope the weather will be kinder, and allow us to linger longer over his treasures. A successful weekend meeting was held in June by our northern members at Moffat in Dumfries-shire where they hoped to find that rare fern Woodsia ilvensis which is recorded from the area. Their hope was a vain one.

FERN EXHIBIT At the Fortnightly Show held by the Royal Horticultural Society on 14/15 June we arranged an exhibit of ferns. Several members provided plants which enabled us to stage a very interesting and varied exhibit. This was most successful and earned for us the award of a Lindley Medal. Our display attracted a lot of attention and the many enquiries and discussions we had would seem to indicate that most people find ferns fascinating plants. Several new members have been gained, making the venture a worthwhile one which we hope to repeat in 1967, and I take this opportunity to ask those of you who live within reach of London to give us your support by loaning plants for the occasion. Mr R F Cartwright, 143 Pittmans Field, Harlow, Essex will be organising the exhibit, so please contact him. We want to aim for a higher award this time, which means that the plants shown will have to approach exhibition standard, and be in clean pots.

SHOWING AT SOUTHPORT FLOWER SHOW The report on the Southport Flower Show will appear as usual in the Gazette, but I would mention here that we are considering making Society entries in some of the fern classes at this Show. Of course, entries will have to be fully up to exhibition standard. It will be difficult to transport such plants in good condition from the south or from the far north although some members may be prepared to make the effort. The main support must come from those living within a reasonable distance from Southport, and we do hope this will be forthcoming. Please let Mr N Robinson, 27 Yewlands Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs know if you can help.

THE MEETINGS PROGRAMME FOR 1967 is enclosed. Please do try to attend some of the meetings which are planned to interest members of all kinds, botanists, gardeners and hunters, the expert and the beginner. We extend a special invitation to beginners who are always welcomed warmly and given every facility to learn more about ferns.

READING CIRCLE May I remind you again about our Reading Circle which circulates the American Fern Journal among interested members. This is issued in four parts annually, and for those seriously interested in ferns contains much valuable information. If you wish to join please advise me, so that I can add your name to the list.

SLIDE LIBRARY Our Slide Library is growing very slowly. Several members have donated slides during the past year, but we need a lot more before the Library can begin to be of service. When photographing those prized ferns in your borders or in pots please take an extra shot for the Library. Mr R F Cartwright, 143 Pittmans Field, Harlow, Essex will gratefully receive all contributions which should include the names of the ferns (if known), and any relevant information. A list of the slides already held is appended.

FERN NURSERIES We are building up a list of all nurseries which hold stocks of ferns. This is proving most useful in answering the many requests I get for such information. A list is appended and if you know of other nurseries please let me know.

SPORE AND PLANT EXCHANGE Members wishing to exchange spores and plants will find the Newsletter a useful medium for this purpose, and we gladly print all offers and requests which should be sent to me for inclusion in the next issue. Subsequent correspondence should be between the interested parties direct, and not routed through me.

The American Fern Society organises a Spore Exchange, run by Mr Neill D Hall, 1225 N E 95th Street, Seattle 15, Washington, U S A. He is glad to receive spores of ferns and can supply a list of spores available from him.

The University of Hull Botanic Garden also issues a list of seeds and spores offered for exchange. This may be obtained from the Assistant Curator, Botanic Garden, Department of Botany, University of Hull, Yorkshire.

The following overseas members are interested in the exchange of spores:-

Mrs E S Bayley, Danbury Park, Postbox 21 MR, Marlborough, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

G Kunkel, Camino Viejo 9, Tafira Alta, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Canary Islands.

Mrs G E Tierney, 593 Buchanan Street, Hillside, New Jersey 07205, U S A.

Wishing to exchange spores and fern plants are:-

Mrs Sylvia Leatherman, of the Los Angeles International Fern Society, 2637 North Lee Avenue, South el Monte, California 91733, U S A.

Ronald J Poff, 4936 S E 108th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97266, U S A.

Mr R M Lloyd, Department of Botany, University of California, Berkeley, California, U S A has asked me to announce that he is interested in getting living rhizomes of Matteuccia struthiopteris (L) Todaro from Europe with field data for his research. He will be happy to refund postage.

FLORA OF MULL The British Museum (Natural History) is actively engaged in collecting data for a Flora of the Island of Mull, including Iona, Ulva, Gometra and the Treshnish Islands, Argyllshire. The survey aims to include all groups of plants, and A C Jermy or J A Crabbe, Department of Botany, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW 7 would welcome any records of ferns or fern allies, preferably accompanied by a specimen, from the area. Material of interest will be incorporated in the National Collections, and all assistance will be gratefully acknowledged in the final publication.

THE UPPER TEESDALE DEFENCE FUND The threat to Teesdale is very much in the minds of all right-thinking men and women these days, but it is not enough only to condemn the insensate folly which would flood the valley and forever destroy this ancient and botanically unique habitat in Upper Teesdale. The Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Bill has had its third reading in the House of Commons, and has been referred by the House of Lords to a Select Committee which will consider alternative sites. The Teesdale Defence Committee is continuing the fight against the Bill, but

more funds are necessary. The first appeal raised over £9000, and a further £7000 is required to ensure that the case against the reservoir is properly presented. If this Bill succeeds, the flooding of the valley will mean irreparable loss to our members in common with all who are interested in plant life, and we ask you to send a donation - if you have already done so please send a second one - to the following address: The Hon Treasurer (B.S.B.I.), Upper Teesdale Defence Fund, c/o British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW 7.

THE NATIONAL GARDENS SCHEME, organised by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, have asked me to bring to your notice their new film "In Search of an English Garden", made and presented by Fisons Horticulture Ltd. It is a 16mm film in colour running for 20 minutes, and is available on hire for 30/- to all interested organisations from Sound-Services Film Library, Wilton Crescent, London SW 19. The film explores the many aspects which go to the making of an English garden, and its technical achievement and instructive qualities are high. The commentary too is intelligent and informative , yet thoroughly "digestible".

NEW BOOK We congratulate our member Mr F H Brightman on his newly published book "The Oxford Book of Flowerless Plants". (See enclosed leaflet). A review will appear in the next issue of the Gazette.

NEW MEMBERS Members who have joined since the last list was published in Newsletter No 3 are:-

Mrs E M Bean, Taw Cross, Newman's Road, Sudbury, Suffolk.
Bibliotheca Bogoriensis, Djalan Ir. H. Djuanda 20, Bogor, Indonesia.
Birmingham University, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15.
Bletchley Grammar School, Biology Department, Sherwood Drive, Bletchley, Bucks.
A E Bobrov, Botanical Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R., Prof. Popov Street 2, Leningrad 22, U.S.S.R.
Professor Albert L M Bonnet, Institut de Botanique, 5 Rue A Broussonet, 34 Montpellier, France.
Botanical Library, O Vallgatan 18, Lund, Sweden.
Dr D M Britton, Department of Botany, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, Canada.
California University, Biomedical Library, The Center for the Health Sciences, Los Angeles, California 90024, U.S.A.
R Dadd, 21 Embrook Road, Wokingham, Berkshire.
J R Davies, 16 Welbourne Road, Childwall, Liverpool 16.
Duke University Library, Durham, North Carolina 27706, U.S.A.
Mrs E Elengorn, 43 Queen Anne's Place, Enfield, Middlesex.
Dr P J Godin, ARCS, DIC, PhD, 53 Colborne Way, Worcester Park, Surrey.
Goteborgs Universitetsbibliotek, Institutionstjansten, Gamla Stadsbiblioteket, Hegaplan, Goteborg C, Sweden.
Mrs Dinah P Gover, 74 Station Road, Bow Brickhill, Bletchley, Bucks.
- Greig, Royston Nursery, Royston, V.I., B.C., Canada.
H.M. Stationery Office, I.T.W. (Books), Cornwall House, Stamford Street, London.
D A Harris, 21 Hamboro Gardens, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.
Miss Clara S Hires, Mistaire Laboratories, 152 Glen Avenue, Millburn, N.J. 07041, U.S.A.
Mrs H J Holshuh, 611 Ardleigh Drive, Akron, Ohio 44303, U.S.A.

Hunt Botanical Library, Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, Penn. 15213, U.S.A.
Dr Hiroshi Ito, Botanical Institute, Faculty of Science, Tokyo Kyoiku Daigaku, Ohtsuka, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan.
C R Fraser Jenkins, Newcastle House, Bridgend, Glamorgan.
A G Kenneth, Stronachullin, Ardrishaig, Argyll.
Manchester University, Manchester 13.
Larry McDougald, 275 Crescent Road, San Anselmo, California, U.S.A.
Miss B Mead, 11 Cranley Gardens, Muswell Hill, London N 10.
Michigan State University, Library Dept, East Lansing, Michigan, U.S.A.
Missouri Botanical Garden, 2315 Tower Grove Avenue, St Louis 10, MO 63110, U.S.A.
Maj Gen D M Murray-Lyon, DSO, MC, Ardcuil, Pitlochry, Perthshire.
National Lending Library for Science and Technology, Boston Spa, Yorks.
Mrs M T Petch, New Bungalow, 12B Spring Lane, Mapperley Plains, Nottingham.
Mrs Stephen Player, Ednaston Manor, Brailsford, Derbyshire.
Reading University Library, Whiteknights Park, Reading, Berks.
Baxi M B Sinha, Botany Department, The University, Patna 5, India.
P Swindells, Fairhaven, Caldecote, Cambridge.
R Trippitt, 329 Whitehall Road, Westfield, Wyke, Bradford, Yorks.
Turku University, Department of Botany, Turku 2, Finland.
Dr W Van Cotthem, Laboratorium Morfologie en Systematiek Plantkunde, Ledeganckstr. 39, Ghent, Belgium.
D E Watling, BSc Hons (Hort), 52 Frances Road, Windsor, Berks.
P L Watson, Church House, Norton, Presteigne, Radnor.
Martin G C Wilson, 57 Western Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.
Leonard Woolf, Monks House, Rodmell, Lewes, Sussex.

OBITUARIES It is my sad duty to announce the deaths of three members -
RALPH C BENEDICT who died in August 1965 (obituary in Amer. Fern J. 56:1-3). He first joined our Society for a period of about seven years after the First World War and rejoined in 1954.
GARETH B EVANS who died in October this year.
EDMUND F WARBURG who died in June this year.
Obituaries of Evans and Warburg will appear in the forthcoming Gazette.

25 November 1966

J W Dyce
Hon Secretary.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS AT 30 JUNE 1966

ORDINARY ACCOUNT

1965		£. s. d.			£. s. d.
June 30 To Balance		9 18 6	By Subscriptions -		
Subscriptions		198 5 8	Royal Hort. Society	3 3 0	
Donations		17 3 9	Council for Nature	3 0 0	
Grant-in-aid from			American Fern Society	1 8 7	
Royal Society		150 0 0	Upper Teesdale		
Sales -			Appeal Fund	3 3 0	10 14 7
Gazettes	95 13 1		E.C.Freeman Ltd - cost		
Census lists	13 8	96 6 9	of Gazette Vol 9 pt 7	208 3 0	
Advertisement		1 2 5	Blocks	25 10 0	
			Handsetting		
			Display Type	5 0 6	238 13 6
			Printing and Stationery		30 7 0
			Secretarial and		
			Editorial Expenses		20 7 3
			Transfer to Special Account		96 0 0
			Balance at 30 June 1966		76 14 9
		£472 17 1			£472 17 1
1966					
June 30 To Balance		£ 76 14 9			

SPECIAL ACCOUNT

1965	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
June 30 To Balance	£ 70 0 0		
Transfer from Ordinary			
Account - Sale Gazettes	96 0 0	By Balance at 30 June 1966	166 0 0
	£166 0 0		£166 0 0
1966			
June 30 To Balance	£166 0 0		

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PROGRAMME FOR 1967

Saturday 18 February	Indoor Meeting at the British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW 7 at 4.30 pm. Lecture by Dr John D Lovis in the Lecture Hall, to be followed by a conversazione.
Friday/Sunday 23/25 June	* Weekend meeting in Ashdown Forest, Sussex. Leader : A C Jermy. (SEE NOTES 1 AND 2).
Saturday 15 July	* Meeting centred on Oxford, to visit the University Botanic Gardens, and one or two private gardens in the area specialising in ferns. (SEE NOTES 1 AND 2).
Saturday 5 August	Visit to the Fern Houses, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Surrey. Meet at 2.30 pm outside the Fern Houses.
Saturday/Saturday 2/9 September	* Annual Excursion in the Ingleborough/Penyghent area, Yorkshire. (SEE NOTES 1, 2 AND 3).
Wednesday 6 September	Annual General Meeting at the Annual Excursion centre. (NOTICE TO BE SENT LATER).
Saturday during October	Indoor Meeting. Date and details to be advised later with the next issue of the British Fern Gazette.
FERN DISPLAY	It is hoped to arrange an Exhibit of Ferns at one of the R.H.S. Fortnightly Shows during July. Date and details to be advised with the next issue of the British Fern Gazette.
NORTHERN MEETINGS	Mr N Robinson hopes to arrange a weekend meeting in the Eskdale/Wasdale area in June, provisional date the second weekend, PROVIDED THERE IS SUFFICIENT SUPPORT. Will interested members please write to Mr Robinson DIRECT, at 27 Yewlands Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs, as soon as possible, so that he will have ample time to make all necessary arrangements. He will welcome suggestions for other places and/or dates in addition to the above Meeting.

NOTE 1. With the exception of the Annual General Meeting, further necessary information regarding the meetings, in particular those marked with an asterisk, will be advised only to members who complete and return the attached form to the Meetings Secretaries.

NOTE 2. For the meetings marked with an asterisk, private car transport will be used. Will members please mark the form accordingly.

NOTE 3. Members hoping to join the Annual Excursion, WHO HAVE ADVISED THE MEETINGS SECRETARIES, will be given information regarding the Centre and hotels, as soon as this is available.

THE BRITISH PTERIDOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PLEASE RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND NOT LATER THAN THE END OF FEBRUARY.

To: Mr R F Cartwright, 143 Pittmans Field, Harlow, Essex.

I hope to attend the Meetings marked "X".

Please keep me informed.

	Mark "X"	Travelling by car	Spare seats available	Request lift by car	Making own travel arrangements
Ashdown Forest Weekend 23/25 June					
Oxford Saturday 15 July					
Fern Houses, Kew Saturday 5 August					
Annual Excursion Week 2/9 September					

NAME . . . . . .

ADDRESS . . . . . .

. . . . . .

APPENDIX NO 1.

List of Slides held in Slide Library.

Adiantum capillus-veneris	Close-up pinnule and sori.
" "	Habitat.
" pedatum 'Klondyke'	Pinnules.
" venustum	In pot.
" "	In pot.
Asplenium Species	Habitat Yugoslavia.
" bulbiferum	Pinnule.
" "	Pinnule.
" trichomanes	On old Roman wall.
" " sub-sp inexpectans	Habitat.
Blechnum occidentale	Close-up sori.
" "	Close-up pinnule tip.
Cyrtomium falcatum	Sori.
Humata tyermannii	Pinna
" "	Pinnule.
" "	Close-up sori.
" "	Close-up indusium.
Lycopodium annotinum	Habitat.
Microlepia platyphylla	Pinnule.
" "	Pinnule.
" strigosa	Close-up sori.
" "	Pinnule.
Polystichum setiferum 'Proliferum'	Bulbils.
Selaginella helvetica	Habitat.
Woodwardia fimbriata	Pinnule.
" "	Pinnule tip.

ALSO - Sundry other slides of general interest or poor quality.

APPENDIX NO 2.

List of Fern Nurseries.

NOEL BROOKFIELD, 102 Stamford Road, Birkdlae, Southport, Lancs.
THOMAS BUTCHER, Wickham Road Nursery, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey.
EBFORD NURSERIES, Tupsham, Exeter, Devon.
EDROM NURSERIES, Coldingham, Berwickshire.
HAZELDENE NURSERY, Upper Moors Road, Brambridge, Eastleigh, Hants.
HIGHLANDS WATER GARDENS, Rickmansworth, Herts.
HILLIER AND SONS, Winchester, Hants.
W E TH INGWERSEN LTD, Birch Farm Nursery, Gravetye, East Grinstead, Sussex.
REGINALD KAYE LTD, Waithman Nurseries, Silverdale, Carnforth, Lancs.
NEWLAKE GARDENS, New Chapel Road, Crawley, Sussex.
PERRY'S HARDY PLANT FARM, Theobalds Park Road, Crews Hill, Enfield, Middlesex.
MAURICE PRITCHARD AND SONS LTD, Riverslea Nurseries, Christchurch, Hants.
ROPHELL (HORTICULTURE), P R Swindells, Fairhaven, Caldecote, Cambridge.
SUNNINGDALE NURSERIES, Windlesham, Surrey.
G THOMPSON AND SONS (NURSERIES) LTD, 237 Sutton Commom Road, Sutton, Surrey.